

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of providing a data store of people information, comprising the steps of:
- 5 using automated means, extracting from a global computer network information about individual people, and storing the extracted information in a database, the database including for each person a respective record holding at least name of the person and name of a respective current employer; and
- 10 enabling people named in the database to access respective records, said enabling access being in a manner that enables each respective person to edit the data in his record of the database such that the database is maintained and continually updated by the person named in the database and by the automated means.
2. A method as claimed in Claim 1 further comprising the steps of:
- 15 linking from a desired record in the database to a third party data system, said linking providing a communication link;
- updating the data in the desired record linked to the third party data system; and
- 20 using the communication link, notifying the third party data system of the updated data in the desired record such that the third party data system employs the updated data in maintaining data of the third party data system.
3. A method as claimed in Claim 1 further comprising the step of utilizing the database as an e-mail communication system to each person named in the database, the e-mail communication system enabling a sender to send a message

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to a named person based on name of the person absent the sender having an email address for the named person.

4. A method as claimed in Claim 1 further comprising the step of targeted advertising to a named person during access of his record, the targeted advertising being based on information stored in the record.
5. A method as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the step of enabling access includes maintaining integrity of the automatically extracted and stored information.
6. A method as claimed in Claim 1 wherein for each person, the respective record further holds job title of the person; and
- 10 further comprising the step of querying the data base by name and job title.
7. A method as claimed in Claim 1 further comprising the steps of:
- using the automated means, extracting from a global computer network, information about organizations, and storing the extracted organization information in the database, the database including for each organization, name of the organization and field of business of the organization; and
- 15 querying the database by organization name and field.
8. A method as claimed in Claim 7 further comprising:
- providing computer means for monitoring changes in information about
- 20 desired people or organizations; and
- in response to said monitoring detecting a change, notifying an interested party of said detected change.

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9. A method for e-mail communication comprising the steps of:
- providing a database storing information regarding people, said providing including using crawler means, automatically extracting information regarding people and/or organizations from sites on a global computer network and storing the extracted information in the database, such that the database is formed by automated means; and
- coupling an e-mail clearinghouse system to the database, in a manner that enables each person named in the database to receive e-mail in a respective e-mail box, in a manner free of the database indicating email addresses of people named in the database to email message senders.
10. A method as claimed in Claim 9 wherein the database stores extracted information in respective records, a different record for each different person and organization, and further comprising the steps of:
- linking from a desired record in the database to a third party data system, said linking providing a communication link;
- updating the data in the desired record linked to the third party data system; and
- using the communication link, notifying the third party data system of the updated data in the desired record such that the third party data system employs the updated data in maintaining data of the third party data system.
11. A method as claimed in Claim 10 wherein the step of updating is computer automated and regularly occurring.
12. A method as claimed in Claim 9 further comprising the step of enabling individuals to annotate, including updating, information stored in the database in a manner that maintains integrity of the information as extracted.

13. A method as claimed in Claim 9 further comprising:
providing computer means for monitoring changes in information about
desired people or organizations, and
in response to said monitoring detecting a change, notifying a
5 predetermined party of said detected change.
14. A method as claimed in Claim 9 further comprising the steps of:
enabling access to the database by people named in the extracted
information stored in the database; and
targeting advertising to a person named in the database during his
10 accessing the database, the targeted advertising being based on the extracted
information stored in the database.
15. A method for obtaining information about people or organizations comprising
the computer-implemented steps of:
extracting from a global computer network information about individual
15 people and organizations;
storing the extracted information in a database;
monitoring changes in information about desired people or organizations
with respect to the extracted information stored in the database; and
in response to said monitoring detecting a change, notifying an interested
20 party of said detected change and corresponding new information about the
desired people or organization.
16. A method as claimed in Claim 15 further comprising the steps of:
linking from certain information stored in the database to a third party
data system, said linking providing a communication link;
25 updating the certain information in the database; and

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using the communication link, notifying the third party data system of the updated information such that the third party data system employs the updated information in maintaining data of the third party data system.

17. A method as claimed in Claim 15 further comprising the step of utilizing the database as an email communication system to each person named in the information stored in the database, the email communication system enabling a sender to send a message to a named person based on name of the person absent the sender having an email address for the named person.
18. A method as claimed in Claim 15 further comprising the steps of:
enabling people named in the information stored in the database to access the database; and
advertising to a named person during his accessing the database, the advertising being targeted based on information stored in the database.
19. A method as claimed in Claim 15 wherein the step of storing the extracted information includes for each person, storing indications of name and job title of the person, and for each organization, storing indications of organization name and field of business of the organization; and
further comprising the step of querying the database by any combination of person name, job title, organization name and field of business.

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